108. Opening of a Government hospital at Kuzhittura.

Mr. K. M. Madhavan Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Kuzhittura) said that Vilavankod was the only taluk in the State, which did not receive the benefit of a Government hospital. Some time ago, there was a proposal to open a hospital in the taluk, but the scheme, however, was dropped. The disadvantage with the people of the taluk was that there was a Mission hospital at Martandam. He contended that, when the State rendered free medical aid in all other taluks, the people of Vilavankod alone should not be forced to purchase medicines and advice from the Mission hospital. Further, a Mission hospital could not command the same confidence as a Government institution. The people generally endured very great hardships in purchasing medical aid from the hospital at Martandam. He therefore requested that the question of opening a Government hospital at Kuzhittura, for the use of the people of Vilavankod taluk, might be re-considered. If it were thought that the expenditure involved in the opening of a hospital could not be undertaken at present, he suggested that the hospital at Parassala, which was only six miles from Neyyattinkara, might be temporarily transferred to Kuzhittura.

Dewan's reply.—The Government do not consider it necessary to establish a Government hospital at Kuzhittura.

109. Conversion of the dispensary at Chengannur into a hospital.

Mr. K. T. Thomas (Member, Chengannur taluk) said that the increasing number of out-patients and surgical operations evidenced the growing importance of the dispensary at Chengannur. Perceiving the necessity for raising the dispensary to a hospital, the late Dewan ordered the provision of two beds in the dispensary as a preliminary step as early as Chingam 1089. Nothing was done further in that direction ever since. The importance of Chengannur compared with the sister taluks necessitated the opening of a District Hospital at that place. The nearest hospital was situated at Tiruvalla. But the people had to cross three rivers to go to that place. There was no easy means of communication to the hospitals at Kozhenchery and Mavelikara. He therefore requested that the dispensary at Chengannur might be raised to a hospital.

Dewan's reply.—There is no necessity for a hospital at Chengannur.

110. Opening of a dispensary at Mallapalli

Mr. K. Govinda Pillai (Member, Tiruvalla taluk) said that the hospitals at Tiruvalla and Kozhenchery were situated at a distance of more than 12 miles from Mallapalli and other eastern pakuthies of the Tiruvalla taluk and there was no easy means of communication for the inhabitants of those pakuthies to go to those hospitals. The Mission authorities promised to open a hospital at Mallapalli if the people would give them a building and Rs. 1,000. The amount was collected and a site was arranged for, but on account of the war, they dropped the scheme. The people were prepared to give two acres of land and Rs. 1,000 if the Government would open a dispensary at Mallapalli.

Dewan.—The Darbar Physician says that he would prefer a building.

Member.—If the Government would grant the timber free of cost, the people are prepared to construct a building worth Rs. 3,000 and also give Rs. 1,000 in cash.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. The Member will do well to meet the Darbar Physician during his next tour to the taluk, show him the places and explain the necessity for a dispensary.

111. Desirability of re-opening the branch dispensary near the Iron Bridge at Alleppey.

Mr. K. Sankara Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Alleppey) said that the only hospital for the whole of the town covering an area of about 8 sq. miles was situated towards the western extremity of the town. The eastern portion of the town, with its important factories, mills and trading houses, was growing in importance and the numerous workmen attached to them were now without any medical aid. The number of out-patients in the hospital had become very large and it took a long time for each

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